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MAGAZINE

For Flower Lovers

F. C. BURNS, SAN RAFAEL, CALIF.



DELPHINIUM

THE Delphinium is a hardy perennial and an old garden favorite. Their brilliant flower spikes arrest your attention even at a distance. The foliage is attractive and the plants strong and neat in habit. By keeping the plants well watered and the flowers cut a second crop of bloom may be had and in some localities a third. After years of crossing and selection I eliminated the darker shades and obtained plants showing perfectly double flowers with a tendency to be frilled. From these plants I have fixed a new strain which is very robust, has excellent branching habits and is very rarely affected with mildew.

The colors are indeed difficult to describe. All shades of blue and lavender pink are included, forming a wonderful combination rarely seen in the floral world except in the orchid. In the cut of the Burns Delphinium shown in this issue, shows one of the seed parents of this strain. The outer row of petals are light blue, and the inner row lavender pink—an altogether ideal combination. Most people never realize the charming beauty and valuable decorative qualities of these wonderful flowers until they have personally arranged them or seen their appeal when the florist's art properly presents it. I prefer to use the lighter shades, especially the lavender and blue types, for they harmonize in decorative work with any style or color effect of a given room. I use them in combinations with many flowers, preferably loose types. They always make a well balanced design in the garden. In fact, a few well placed Delphinium spikes always seem to emphasize the appeal of flowers when used in proper proportion.



CULTIVATION NOTES

Under favorable conditions, if the seed is planted early, they will show small spikes the first year, but generally the best spikes are obtained the second year.

Sow the seed from March until September according to climatic conditions. Seed sown in July and August can be left in the boxes all winter and will make fine plants for bedding out in the spring. Level the seed soil, press it down firmly and proceed to plant the seeds. Sow thickly if intending to afterward flat the plants, or thinly if planned to stay in original box. Barely cover the seed. Practically every seed failure is due to too deep planting or to surface drying during germination stages. Germinating seeds need constant moisture and even temperature. Perhaps seed soil matters are the most important of all stages of growing plants from seed, and usually the least attended to. Proper seed soil, proper surface air conditions, proper moisture and drainage, and steady low temperatures will invariably provide every condition for germination of seeds of any kind.

Delphinium plants can be transplanted very easily during their dormant season and after they are three years old they may be divided if the clumps are large enough; do not use the knife more than is necessary but try to break the crown apart. Plant them at the same level they were before, spreading the roots and pressing down firmly. Do not use any manure or fertilizer near the roots. Delphiniums are quick growing plants and need plenty of moisture and a moderate amount of fertilizer. When watering give a good soaking which keeps the roots down deep.



SEED SELECTION

To begin a Delphinium collection, one must have the best seed stock, for it takes two years to properly develop a fine plant, which in turn requires the same effort as an inferior sort. The best seeds cost only a few cents more and immeasurably repay the initial outlay. There are many Delphinium specialists whose results are widely known, and to these or to their seed distributors a demand should be made.

But the greatest pleasure and the real beauty in Delphiniums is in growing the so-called Hybrid Strains, of which there are many on the market. These plants give a bewildering range of colorings and color combinations, out of which one can easily build up just the preference desired, either in huge plants for garden show or the slender, stiff stemmed, artistic spike sorts for cut flower use. Hence one should start aright by obtaining seed from a widely tested strain, as well as one which the originator or developer frankly discusses personally. One must not, however, judge seed by size, usually a tempting item to the amateur. Normal sized, properly stored seed will usually give a larger percentage of excellence (according to my own experience), and responsible specialists never segregate super sized seed unless so requested.



SUMMER SKIES (Burns)

No Delphinium plants delivered after March 15th. At this time the plants will be too far advanced for transplanting.



NAMED VARIETIES

LILAC LADY—

A beautiful double flower with a pleasing combination of lilac and light blue. The flowers are large and well placed. This variety is very robust, growing to the height of six feet with a three foot spike, with many branching laterals. Strong Plants—\$2.50 each.

SUMMER SKIES—

This Delphinium has unusual color shading. The flowers are large and double. The outer edge of the petals are light blue shading to a darker blue in the center. Very free bloomer. Strong plants—\$2.50 each.

CALIFORNIA BLUE KING—

A very striking combination. The flowers are double and very large. The outer row of petals are a dark blue while the inner row is a very deep orchid. This is an unusual flower and will add to any collection. A strong growing plant. Strong plants—\$2.50 each.



CALIFORNIA BLUE KING (Burns)

PLANTS

BURNS HYBRID DELPHINIUMS (Mixed seedlings)—

One year old strong plants \$3.00 per doz.
Two year old strong plants \$6.00 per doz.



SEED

\$1.00 per packet containing about 500 seeds. The Burns Hybrid Delphinium seed is sold direct from the garden ONLY.

Our customers are the best judges of the merit in our Hybrid Delphiniums. Hundreds of testimonials tell us of superior blooms and of exceptionally good germinating qualities of this strain.

"QUEEN OF THE GARDEN BEAUTIFUL"

SENSATIONAL NEW DAHLIA

A flower that fulfills the dream of Dahlia lovers. One of the largest of all Dahlias, measuring from nine to twelve inches across, and five to six inches deep, grown without forcing. The stems are unusually strong and it is a wonderful keeper. The following is an extract from the San Francisco Examiner:

"Frank C. Burns of San Rafael, yesterday was awarded the Samuel W. Heller flower prize for the most meritorious Dahlia in the show being conducted at the Palace Hotel by the Dahlia Society of California. Ten growers were in competition for the most important flower prize ever awarded in this country. The prize was allocated to the Dahlia this year by the regents of the University of California, who also named Professors G. W. Gregg and W. A. Shepherd of the university horticultural department in collaboration with Carl Salbach and J. H. Hughes, named by the Dahlia Society. Burns' dahlia is a gigantic lemon-colored decorative type of bloom, named "Queen of the Garden Beautiful." It is a magnificent specimen and was pronounced a perfect type by the judges, scoring 94 points."

This Dahlia was a prize winner from coast to coast in 1926, also taking first for the largest Dahlia in the San Francisco Show 1927. Tubers \$5.00 each.

LITTLE JEWEL

Dec. Pom. This is the miniature or pompon decorative. Popular for exhibition as well as a cut flower. Grows about two inches. Color, a pleasing peach blossom pink. The flowers are borne erect. A great acquisition for the garden and as a commercial cut flower. 75c each, \$7.50 dozen.

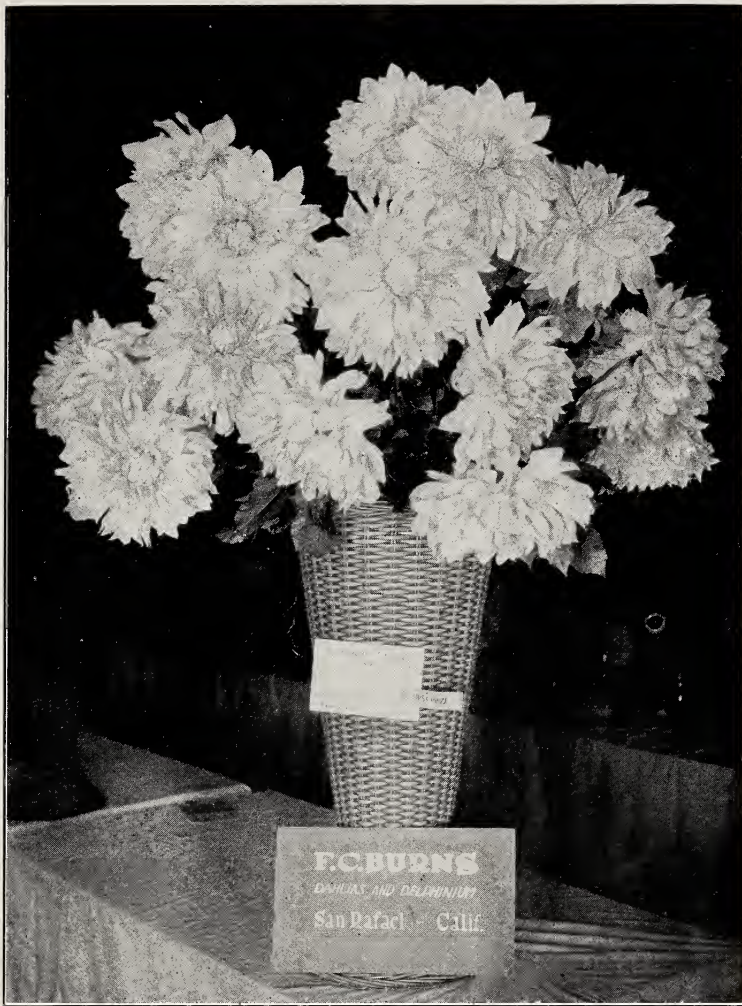


DAHLIA SEED

Much pleasure can be derived from growing Dahlia seed. Dahlias grow very easily from seed. Plant early, then transplant after danger of frost. They will make large plants the first year. New varieties are produced in this manner. Great care has been exercised in the selection of these seeds. Their record speaks for themselves. \$1.00 per packet.

SPECIAL

I have saved a limited amount of seed from "Queen of the Garden Beautiful" which I am offering for five cents per seed or four dollars per hundred.



QUEEN OF THE GARDEN BEAUTIFUL GLADIOLUS

BYRON L. SMITH—

Refined lavender-pink; a magnificent variety.

CRIMSON GLOW—

A brilliant crimson; flowers very large and well placed on a tall spike.

EARLY SUNRISE—

Red with salmon-yellow throat; very large.

GOLDEN MEASURE—

Beautiful deep yellow, with large ruffled flowers well placed on a tall spike.

HALLEY—

Very large flowers of a lovely salmon-pink lower petals blotched yellow with carmine markings.

LOUISE—

Exquisite shade of lilac, growing brighter toward center.

MRS. DR. NORTON—

Pure soft white with tips of petals suffused pink.

MRS. FRANK PENDLETON—

A beautiful salmon-pink with a conspicuous blood-red blotch in the throat on the lower petals. Flowers are of the largest size and are borne on strong spikes.

ORANGE GLORY—

Grand orange colored; very rich and striking color.

PRINCE OF WALES—

Flowers are large and well placed, and the color is a beautiful light salmon. One of the best novelties of recent introduction.

ROSE ASH—

A beautiful shade of old rose overlaid and blended with pink.

VIRGINIA (Scarlet Princeps)—

Large well-formed flowers of a beautiful shade of glowing scarlet on tall spike.

The above varieties: 10c each; \$1.00 per doz.; \$7.00 per 100, except where noted.

RAINBOW MIXTURE—

A splendid strain of named large flowering gladiolus in a good variety of colors. 75c per doz.; \$5.00 per 100.

PRIMULINUS HYBRID GLADIOLUS—

This strain produces beautiful slightly hooded flowers of good size on tall graceful stems, mostly in tones running from light yellow to orange-apricot and crimson.

PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS MIXED—

An extra choice selection of all colors. 75c per doz.; \$5.00 per 100.

SEED NOVELTIES

- ALSTROEMERIA** (Peruvian Lily) Pkt. 25c
Perennial.
- AMARYLLIS**— (The Burns Everflowering Hybrids) Pkt. 50 Seeds, \$1.00
Colors variegated, white, rose, salmon and scarlet. Flowers 8 to 12 inches in diameter. Evergreen and blooms more frequently than the other hybrids.
- Deep orange and salmon shades, 50 seeds \$1.00
- ANEMONE**, Caen or Giant Single—(Mixed)..... Pkt. 25c
The flowers come in a great variety of colors. They bloom very early in Spring and make a nice display when planted in a bed or border. Sow seed outdoors from April to June for next Spring's bloom and keep shaded until plants appear.
- ANTIRRHINUM MAXIMUM**, Snapdragon—(Mixed) Pkt. 25c
This wonderful new group of Antirrhinums far surpass anything yet introduced. In habit they are slightly taller than the other group. The flowers are of magnificent size closely placed on the spike.
- AQUILEGIA** (Long Spurred Columbine)..... Pkt. 25c
Charming hardy perennial plants growing from one to three feet high. Large blossoms of clear blue, white, lavender, pink, salmon, yellow and orange.
- DELPHINIUM** (See page 3).
- ESCHSCHOLTZIA** (California Poppy)—New Hybrids Mixed Pkt. 25c
New, large flowering, erect type, containing a large percentage of new shades in Eschscholtzias and includes soft pink, scarlet, chrome, copper, red, scarlet, cream, purple.
- LARKSPUR** (Double Hardy Annual Varieties)..... Pkt. 25c
Exceedingly popular and free flowering hardy annuals, growing 1½ to 3 feet high, their long spikes of flowers on long stems rendering them of exceptional value for cutting purposes. They are of long continued bloom and very bright and showy. Sow in the Fall or Spring.
- LILIUM REGALE**—Seed per packet, 50 cents. Description see opposite page.

PANSIES IN MIXTURE

- BURNS PRIZE STRAIN**..... Pkt. of 500 seeds 50c
This is a mixture of all the giant-flowered varieties, all the plain colors, faced sorts, ruffled edged and rare sorts; also the varieties exquisitely marbled, striped and blotched.
- RANUNCULUS** (French Mixed)..... Pkt. 25c
These late Spring-blooming plants grow about 9 inches high and should be planted in a cool, partly shaded position. The flowers are double and semi-double and come in a very wide range of attractive colors. Sow the seed outdoors from April to June for next Spring's bloom and keep shaded until plants appear. Superb mixture.

SPENCER OR ORCHID FLOWERED SWEET PEAS

The finest type of Sweet Peas. The blossoms are large and very wavy with long stems, generally having four blossoms to the stem. Pkt. 10c; oz. 30c; except where noted.

THE BEST NOVELTIES

HEAVENLY BLUE—

A fine new pure blue of a most beautiful tone of Delphinium-blue. The flowers are of immense size with four invariably well placed on long stiff stems. A marked improvement on Mrs. Tom Jones. Pkt. 25c; oz. 75c.

MARY PICKFORD—

A sturdy grower producing an abundance of four-flowered sprays on long, stout stems. The color is a beautiful, light and dainty cream-pink with a faint suffusion of salmon. Pkt. 25c; oz. 75c.

ASTA OHN—

Lavender suffused with mauve.

COUNTESS SPENCER—

A lovely clear pink, shading deeper at edges.

HAWLMARK PINK—

A most beautiful shade of rich rose pink, deeply flushed and shaded with salmon.

ILLUMINATOR—

Rose, suffused with salmon-orange; a grand variety of large size and great substance; well waved.

KING WHITE—

The finest white sweet pea; the large flowers are borne almost invariably in fours on stout stems; the blossoms are finely frilled and are of great substance.

KING EDWARD SPENCER—

Bright crimson-scarlet; magnificent in size and color.

ROYAL PURPLE—

Fine royal purple color; flowers of large size; a distinct variety.

WEDGEWOOD—

Silvery blue.

BURNS SPENCER MIXTURE—

This mixture is a beautiful blend of the best varieties of Spencers in the proper proportion and includes all the latest novelties. Pkt. 10c; oz. 30c; ¼ lb., 90c; 1b. \$3.00.

THALICTRUM DIPTERIOCARPUM—(Meadow Rue) Pkt. 25c

This new introduction from China is a hardy perennial of vigorous growth, 4 to 5 feet high. The dainty rosy-purple flowers are brightened by bunch of conspicuous yellow stamens and are produced in graceful sprays from July until September.

ZINNIA—(Giant Dahlia Flowered) All Colors Mixed Pkt. 25c

The plants of this new race are very sturdy and produce many flowers with stout stems, in a wide range of colors. The flowers in full bloom often measure 4 inches in depth and 6 to 8 inches in diameter, closely resembling Show Dahlias.



AMARYLLIS

The Burns Everflowering Hybrids (Hippeastrum)

This is pre-eminently a window garden variety producing under simplest conditions, one or two spikes which are crowned with from three to six gigantic blooms, ranging in color from pure white grounds with varied markings of rose or red to self colors as crimson, scarlet, cerise, etc. We can supply large strong bulbs in choicest mixture only. Blooming size from \$2.00 to \$5.00 each according to size.

AQUILEGIA (Columbine)

Columbines are among the most beautiful hardy perennials, producing gracefully spurred flowers on stems 2 to 3 feet tall throughout May and June.

LONG SPURRED HYBRIDS—

2 year old. Each 25c; doz. \$2.50.

ALSTROMERIA AURANTIACA

(Chilian or Peruvian Lily)

A variety of Chilian Lily, with spikes of lily-like flowers which are orange-yellow, spotted red. Fine as a cut flower, owing to its lasting qualities. They grow 2 feet tall and bloom in July. Set the tubers not less than 6 inches deep. Place some sand around them to afford drainage. Each 25c; doz. \$2.50, postpaid.

AMARYLLIS—(The Burns Everflowering Hybrids)

LILIUM REGALE

The new, delightfully fragrant importation from Western China that is beginning to rival the Easter Lily and that may some day supplant it.

Waxy white and beautifully formed, the great blossoms have a faint tinge of primrose yellow in the throat, while the outsides of the petals have a deep rose blush.

The fragrance of Lilium Regale is superior, in the opinion of many connoisseurs, to that of any of the large lilies. It is mild, elusive and unforgettable.

Lilium Regale is hardy, grows to a height of four feet and upwards, and bears from half a dozen to a dozen great blooms to the spike. The lily is graceful, gracious and truly regale—hence the name. Blooming size, 50c each; \$5.00 doz.

BEGONIA (Tuberous-Rooted)

Splendid pot plants, also useful for bedding outside in partial shade, flowering very profusely. DOUBLE—Mixed colors. Each 35c; doz. \$3.50.

Yellow Calla Lily (Elliottiana)

The truly yellow-flowered Calla. The flowers are bright yellow and the foliage dark green, spotted white. Large bulbs, each 25c; doz. \$2.50.



ALSTROMERIA AURANTIACA

TERMS—All retail orders are delivered prepaid.
CASH—With order or in advance of shipment.



LILAC LADY (Burns)



MY DELPHINIUM EXHIBIT PALACE HOTEL SHOW SAN FRANCISCO 1927
(FIRST AWARD)